Air Transport Association ata OF AMERICA

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AIRLINES HAVE HIGHEST PASSENGER TRAFFIC MONTH IN INDUSTRY HISTORY

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 17 -- The nation's airlines in August produced more than 49.5 billion passenger miles of service, the best traffic month in the history of the industry, the Air Transport Association reported today.

Airline passenger traffic rose 13.7 percent in August, compared with the same month last year, and was up 8.3 percent for the first eight months of the year, ATA said.

Domestic airline passenger traffic in August increased by 18 percent. Available seat miles registered a gain of 11.7 percent. The load factor was 69.0 percent, up from 65.3 percent in the same month a year ago.

August's international passenger traffic for the U.S. airlines rose 0.2 percent. The available seat miles decreased 0.6 percent. The load factor was 72.0 percent, up from 71.4 percent in August of 1985.

During the first eight months of the year, domestic passenger traffic increased 11.3 percent. Available seat miles had a gain of 12.8 percent. The load factor was 62.6 percent, down from 63.4 percent for the first eight months of 1985.

International passenger traffic of the U.S. air carriers during the first eight months fell 3.2 percent. Available seat miles were up 9.3 percent. The load factor was 59.2 percent, down from 66.9 percent for the same months a year earlier.

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PRELIMINARY PASSENGER TRAFFIC STATISTICS
U.S. SCHEDULED AIRLINE INDUSTRY

AUGUST 1986 - 1985

		AUGUST			YEAR TO DATE		
	YEAR	RPM'S (000)	ASM'S (000)	LOAD FACTOR (%)	RPM'S (000)	ASM'S (000)	LOAD FACTOR (%)
DOMESTIC	86	27,138,437	39,356,844	69.0	184,016,931	294,007,451	62.6
	85	23,001,886	35,219,317	65.3	165,306,929	260,551,295	63.4
PERCENT CHANGE		18.0	11.7		11.3	12.8	
INTERNATIONAL	86	7,316,253	10,162,021	72.0	41,360,288	69,849,999	59.2
	85	7,302,036	10,222,102	71.4	42,740,846	63,928,614	66.9
PERCENT CHANGE		0.2	(0.6)		(3.2)	9.3	
TOTAL	86	34,454,690	49,518,865	69.6	225,377,219	363,857,450	61.9
	85	30,303,922	45,441,419	66.7	208,047,775	324,479,909	64.1
PERCENT CHANGE		13.7	9.0		8.3	12.1	

CARRIERS INCLUDED: AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL, DELTA, EASTERN, NORTHWEST, PAN AM, PIEDMONT, REPUBLIC, TRANS WORLD, UNITED, USAIR, WESTERN, AIRCAL, ALASKA, ALOHA, BRANIFF, HAWAIIAN, MIDWAY, OZARK AND PSA. FRONTIER INCLUDED FOR JAN-JUL 1986/1985.